

REMARKS

Claims 46-87 are pending.

The Office has restricted this application under 35 U.S.C. § 121 as follows;

Group I: Claims 46-65;

Group II: Claims 66-83; and

Group III: Claims 84-87.

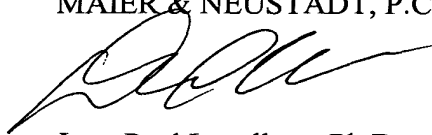
The Applicant has elected Group I, with traverse.

Applicants note that restriction is only proper if the claims of the restricted inventions are either independent or patentably distinct, and there is a burden in searching the entire application (MPEP §803). Applicants respectfully traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that the Office has not provided adequate reasons and/or examples to support its conclusion of distinctness or shown that a burden exists in searching all the claims.

Applicants submit that the present application is ready for examination on the merits. Early notification of such is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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